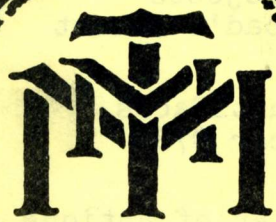




Official Publication of The Minnesota Transportation Museum, Inc.



MINNEGAZETTE

Post Office Box 1300, Hopkins, Minnesota 55343

MARCH-APRIL 1975

ABOUT THE COVER: Festooning the cover of this issue of the Gazette are smiling members of the erstwhile restoration crew of TCRT/DSR car #265, pictured during a break in the work at Como Shops in St. Paul. Left to Right, from the top; Loren Martin, Scott Heiderich, Master Sandberg, Judy Sandberg; Bottom Row; Frank Sandberg, Ray Bensen, Jr., George Isaacs, and Bob Renz. While a remarkable photo in and of itself, this particular shot has the additional distinction of having been featured in a recent full page advertisement appearing in the St. Paul Dispatch Progress Edition for the St. Paul Civic Center. Congratulations, Gang, you've been immortalized! Photo courtesy of Knox Reeves Advertising and Getsug Anderson Photography, Mpls.

p.s.--The reason this group of MTMr's are smiling is the personal gratification each receives from working on the restoration of old #265. You can smile, too! Call restoration chief Bill Graham and sign up for a crew, today! (see his comments, this issue)

THE ANNUAL MEETING-EPILOGUE

It happened on the night of Tuesday, January 14, 1975; the location--the auditorium of Burlington Northern Inc., in downtown St. Paul, Minn.

The event was the Annual General Membership meeting and election of officers of the Minnesota Transportation Museum. The well attended general session was witness to a review of the past years MTM activities and a preview of plans for '75. Each officer gave an account of his stewardship in his particular area of responsibility. New Officers for 1975 were elected as follows----

President -- George Isaacs
Executive Vice President -- John Larkin
Secretary -- Dave Norman
Treasurer -- Bob Macnie
Vice-Pres., Operations -- Scott Heiderich
Vice Pres., Public Relations -- Paul Joyce
Vice Pres., Publications -- Norm Podas
Vice Pres., Traffic -- Frank Sandberg

Reappointed were; Counsel- Byron Olsen, Master Mechanic-Bob Renz, Membership secretary-Dave Norman. Also elected as MTM nominating committee; Ted Kane, Judy Sandberg, Charles Chotkowski. Directors at large of the Museum are Russ Olson and John Stein.

High point of the entire evening was a colorful and well illustrated talk by Mr. Gene Craven, Asst. Vice President of Special Projects and Electrification, Burlington Northern Inc. on the Railroad's recent intensive Electrification Study.

Another feature of interest was an exhibition of historic artifacts exhumed from the carbody of ex-Duluth, early day electric car #78, discovered during pre-restoration examination.

Our sincere thanks to Frank and Judy Sandberg for the display of antique newspapers, packaging, coins, schedules etc.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the past two issues of the Minnegazette, I have urged MTM members in the Twin Cities metro area to join the happy restoration crew at Como Shops, as pictured on the front of this issue. This appeal has met with limited response. I sincerely thank all of you who are coming out to do your part in advancing our restoration work. Again, however, more help is needed.

The work at Como represents an important portion of the Museum's activities that will have to be manned (and womaned) during 1975. We will make our big push north toward Calhoun from the William Berry Bridge end-of-track this coming spring. And, we will have to supply sufficient crews to operate the Como-Harriet streetcar line. Yes, there is much to do and we need willing participants to do the doing.

At the present time the Museum has approximately 150 members. About 100 are located in the Twin Cities metro area. We need more of these members from this area to help staff the programs that are required to achieve the Museum's goal of historical education through historical operation of the transportation artifacts available to us. The best person available to head up a membership drive is you, the individual member. If each Twin City member would sign up just one new member, we could double our membership and our accomplishments and have a great deal of fun doing it. Enclosed you will find an MTM membership blank. Please use it to sign up a new member at the pre-inflation rates of \$12.00 per year for a full member or \$5.00 a year for an associate member. If you need more blanks contact Dave Norman or myself and we will rush them to you.

Now! Go out there and sign up a new member for MTM---help us grow!

Respectfully,

George K. Isaacs, President
(and chief truck-streetcar, that is
-mechanic)

MTM VEHICULAR RESTORATION PROGRAM-REBUILDING FOR THE FUTURE!

by Bill Graham, VP, Equipment Restoration

What other outfit in Minnesota owns (1) a fleet of streetcars, (2) a track with an overhead powersupply, (3) a fleet of buses, and (4) a complete passenger train? You're wrong if you said MTC. In fact, it's no one but us. We now have most of the equipment we need for a complete museum operation, both trolley and heavy rail. Most of our collection, however, needs a great deal of work to restore it to good operating condition, and to good, authentic appearance.

The top priority project is to place a second car on the Como-Harriet line. Our Duluth-Superior Traction #265 has already received many hours of work by a fine and consistent turn-out of MTM members. By the early spring of '75, we'll be well into such areas as wood fabrication, wood re-finishing, electrical systems, heavy machinery, artwork and lots of jaw-boning. George Isaacs and others have accomplished undreamed things with one of our CTA trucks, and we now have the beginnings of a complete set of Baldwin style TCRT trucks for the #265.

RESTORATION PROGRAM cont.

Besides #265, there's a locomotive, a trolley bus, a single-truck streetcar and a half dozen other pieces of equipment that might strike your fancy, all of which need lots of tender-loving-care. The Museum is working to acquire a railroad operating site. When that happens we will need a train to run on it. We have one, but it too, needs work.

If you've ever wondered why an air compressor makes that noise, or what makes the doors open and the bells ring, come on over to Como Shops and find out with the rest of us. We'll be organizing work parties, both for weekends and for week nights, beginning just as soon as the weather moderates. Please let me know what your interests and time preferences are. Just call 925-4806.

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF MTM -- TUESDAY, MARCH 11

The next regularly scheduled MTM General Membership meeting is slated for:

Date; Tuesday, March 11, 1975

Time; 8 p.m.

Place; Main Auditorium, Burlington-Northern, General Office Bldg., 176 E. 5th St., St. Paul, Minn. (Note, members and guests are urged to be at the BN 5th St. entrance just prior to 8 p.m.)

In addition to our business session, a terrific entertainment program has been planned. The program will be put on by Mr. Dick Hance, Director Audio Visual Services of Burlington Northern. Mr. Hance has assembled a large collection of old railroad publicity and training movie films--some of them dating back into the 1920's. These films are from the archives of all three of the Burlington Northern predecessor railroads; the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. Mr. Hance will show a selection of the best of these films. The emphasis will be on railroad subject matter but other film will also be included--such as the 1937 color film promoting Glacier National Park which was made by Mr. Hance himself.

Another example of the upcoming program--a 1929 film made by General Electric describing the construction of Great Northern's Cascade Tunnel which shows the opening of the tunnel, the many feet of electric operation both on the new tunnel line and on the old line over Stevens Pass!

It sounds like an exciting program--plan to attend--see you on March 11th at the B.N.

THE COMING '75 SEASON AT HARRIET

It seems strange writing about summer projects now, what with all the snow and the temperature below zero. However, Spring is coming and we should look forward to another successful work season at Harriet filled with the many joys of accomplishment. The Northern extension is still tops on our list and soon the Mpls. Park Board should be approving our final northern extension for 1975 -- (about 700 feet). Of course there are many other items on our list. We hope to complete the track work in our station area and to suitably landscape it. This will be our first order of business this spring. This year, we plan to accomplish the following;

1. Install the south switch and complete the passing siding at 42nd. St.

2. Align and tamp the main and siding from 42nd Street north to the north switch to prepare that area for landscaping, to improve our first impressions made on the public in our station area.
3. Dress up the line in other areas as needed to include grass and bush trimmings.
4. Grade the right-of-way, put up the overhead wire and lay track on the northern extension as approved by the Park Board. (350 - 750 feet north)
5. Have installed the foundations for another car barn (32 x 60') on the south end of our line. This work will be done professionally. A pit will be included in the new car barn which will be large enough to hold two standard cars and allow room to work on them indoors.
6. Continue in our efforts to restore those historic vehicles we have in need of restoration. This work to be accomplished at the Como Shops.

We will schedule our work crews to start on April 19th. Again, this year, we would hope that members will all volunteer one Saturday per month from April through September. We will publish one work schedule per month. Any member requesting a particular Saturday should contact me either by phone or letter, at least two (2) weeks in advance before the date involved. I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

R.S. (Scott) Heiderich
1966 Portland Avenue
St. Paul, Minn. 55104
phone 645-3333

p.s. we do have much to accomplish this year, and with the help of everyone we shall and will run old #1300 to Lake Calhoun in '75.

GET INVOLVED-BE A MOTORMAN, MOTORETTE OR MOTORPERSON!

Traffic Chief Frank Sandberg is now making up #1300 operating schedules for 1975 seasons on the Como-Harriet Line. Dependent upon member-volunteer response, Frank is contemplating the addition of a Monday evening to the existing Wednesday, Friday-nite operation (plus Saturdays and Sundays.) Therefore, we will need additional operators; (ie. motormen, motorettes and/or motorpersons! We'll train you! All we need is the willing volunteers. Running a streetcar can be great fun and sport. Learn a lost art---a new/old trade---get involved! Call Frank Sandberg today---phone 890-2830.

NEW 1975 DIRECTORY

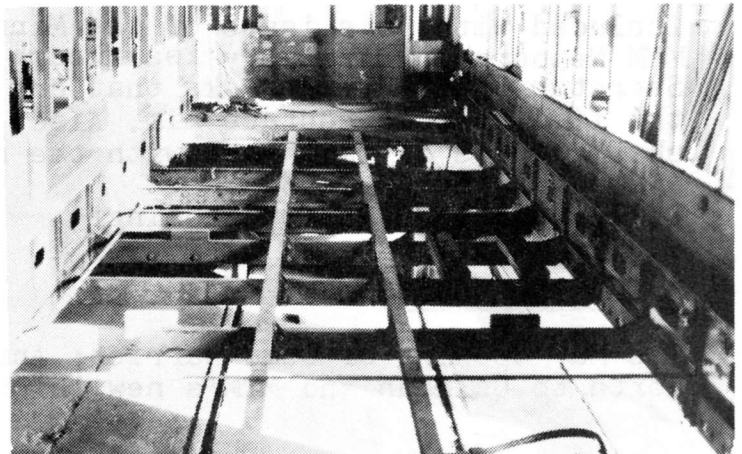
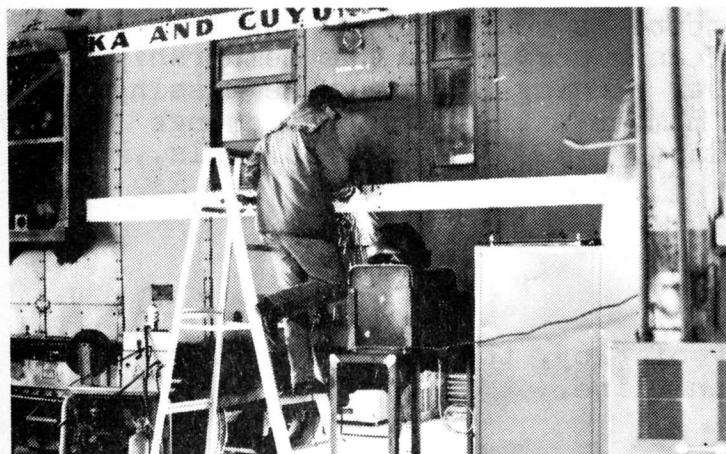
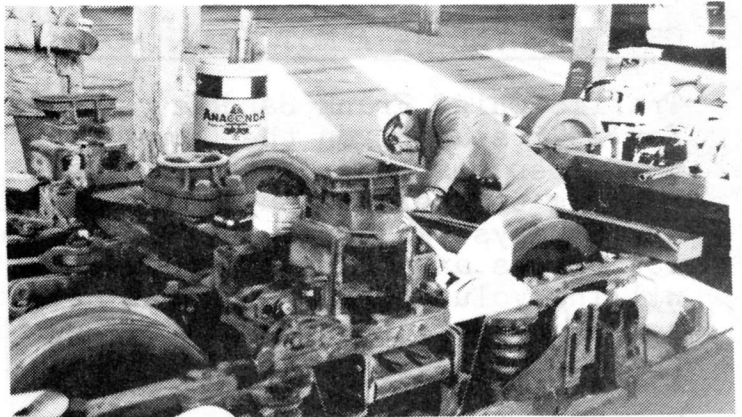
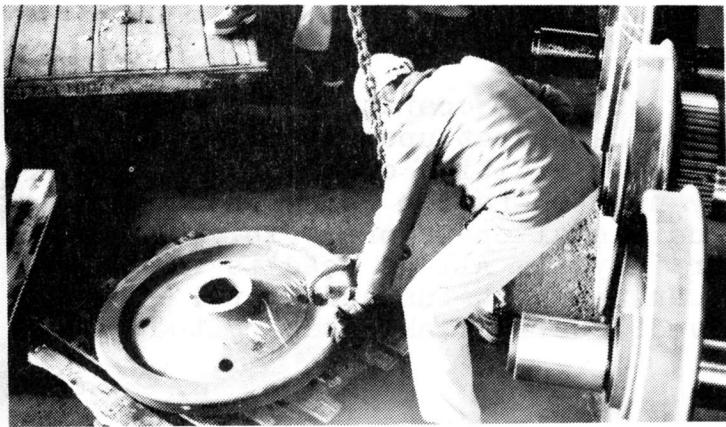
Included with this issue of the Minnegazette is your copy of the 1975 MTM Membership Directory issued each year as a service to the membership. Secretary Dave Norman asks that any member finding his/her name missing from the list, please contact him. Also, any member with an address change should write or call Dave with the new data. (3007 E. 24th St. Mpls., Minn. 55406---phone 729-2428)
It'll keep your Gazette coming!

IN COMING ISSUES:

The May opening of Como Harriet; Anatomy of #265, the wonderful 'Cagney', north to Calhoun and MTM's new 'high iron' line.



Below Left; New wheels for '1300' arrive at Soo Line Shoreham Shops and are unloaded by MTMr's. Several sets of the badly needed wheels were recently brought from the West Coast to be used for the overhaul of '1300's' trucks. Below Right; George Isaacs caught at work on our Ex-Chicago elevated trucks at Como. Bottom Right; Frame and ribs of #265 prior to the installation of new flooring. Bottom Left; Bob Renz grinds a weld on Dan Patch. Above; MTM'rs prepare NP coach #1370 for the move from Minnehaha to Como.





MINNESOTA STREETCAR MUSEUM

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August 2021

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We Make Minnesota's Electric Railway History Come Alive!